

A
VINDICATION
OF A
National-Fishery:

Wherein is Asserted,
That the GLORY, WEALTH,
STRENGTH, SAFETY, and
HAPPINESS of this KING-
DOM; with the Flourishing
of TRADE, and Growth of
NAVIGATION: As also the
Employing the POOR of this
Realm, doth depend (under
GOD) upon

A National-Fishery.

And all the General, Vulgar, (tho'
Erroneous) Objections against En-
couraging the *Fishery of England*,
Answer'd, and Confuted.

To which is added,
The SOVEREIGNTY of the
BRITISH-SEAS.

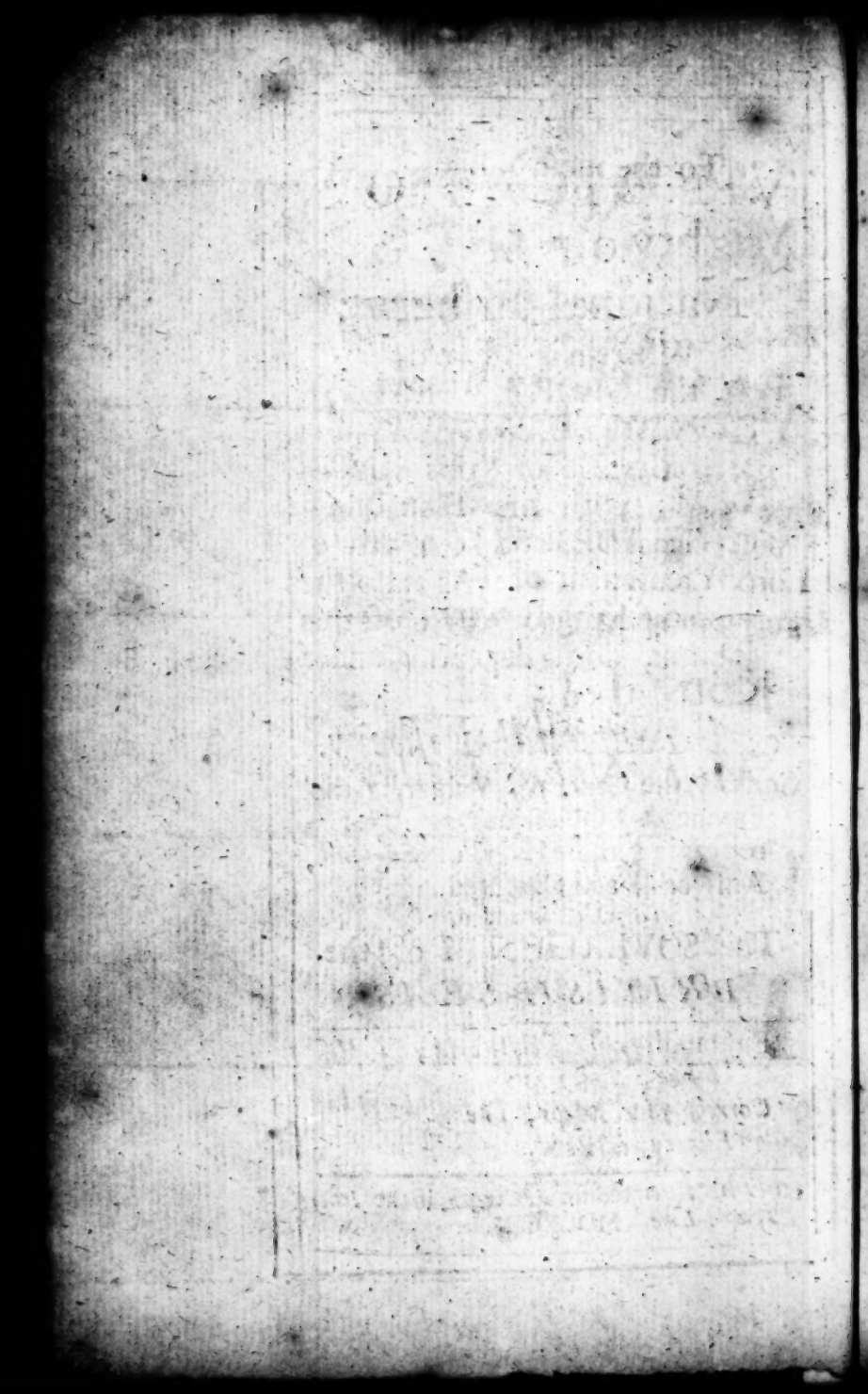
England's a Perfect World;

Thas Indies two:

Correct your Maps; The

Fishery, is Peru.

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To the most Noble

AND

Mighty PRINCE,

THOMAS Duke of LEEDS,
MARQUESS of CARMARTHEN,

EARL of DANBY,

Viscount Latimore,

Baron Osbourne of Kiveton,

Lord President of His Majesty's

Most Honourable Privy-Council ;

Lord Lieutenant of York-shire ,

Governour of Kingston upon Hull,

AND

K N I G H T

OF THE

Most Noble Order

OF THE

G A R T E R.

May it please Your Grace,

THE Great Ap-
plause you have so
deservedly meritted, hath

A 3

en-

Epistle Dedicatory.

encouraged me to Dedicate this small Epitomy to Your Honour; and not knowing any Man, that can with more lively Colours represent this Important Affair to the Wisdom of the Nation, I lay it at Your Lordship's Feet, as an UNDERTAKING, (which if Your Grace be pleased to Espouse, for the Good of the Kingdom) you will thereby add another Trophy to your former Achieve-

Epistle Dedicatory.

chievements ; and the
Glory of the Action will
be Recorded to all Po-
sterity: For upon a Na-
tional-Fishery, under
God, doth depend the
Safety, Honour, and
Happiness of this King-
dom, the Flourishing
of Trade, and the
Supporting of Credit,
as in the Sequel of my
Discourse, I hope, I have
made appear.

My Lord, this Age
gives us too many Ex-
amples, of Discouraging

Epistle Dedicatory.

Ingenuity; many Excellent Qualities lying often hid under humble Looks, and mean Habits, which soon are discountenanc'd, and suppress'd by Insulting Greatness and Popular Opulancy: But You have shew'd by the constant Example of Your Actions, that You have Agreed with Seneca, in his Renowned Maxim; that sola virtus vera Nobilitas, When so many others, are blinded with

Epistle Dedicatory.

with their absurd Vanity and airy Greatness. But you have rendered your self a true Patriot to your Country; and therefore I most humbly implore this Book may be sheltred under the wings of Your Graces Protection: who am, Right Honourable and Renowned

Sir,

Your Graces most humble

And most obedient Servant,

Joseph Gander,

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OF THE
MUSEUM OF
ART AND
ARCHAEOLOGY
OF THE
CITY OF
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TO THE
BARONS
OF THE

Cinque-Ports,

And the Members of
Parliament for the
Coasting-Towns and
Burroughs of the
Kingdom of *England*.

Honoured and Worthy Senators,

THE Cinque-Ports of
this Kingdom, having
signalized their Loyalty and
Valour

The Dedication.

Valour by Sea, in several Expeditions, for the Glory of the King's, Honour of their Country, and Safety of the Realm, our preceding Kings confirmed several Dignities on them, and amongst the rest, made their Members of Parliament Barons, as an Encouragement to Navigation, and their Prowess.

And gave them the Honour of Supporting the Canopy over his Head at his Coronation; as is supposed by way of Similitude: That whereas they had Defended, Supported, and Maintained his Honour by their Courage against his Enemies by Sea, he gave them the Honour to support the Canopy over his Head; as a Mark of Honour to them, and his Acknowledgement

The Dedication

ledgement of the Greatness of
their Service.

And many Coasting-Towns
and Burroughs, have from time
to time, been endowed with great
Priviledges, some of them re-
maining to this day; as a mark
of Honour, by several Kings,
to Encourage Navigation; from
whence originally, we have be-
yond all Dispute, arrived to the
Knowledge we are now at-
tained to in Marine Affairs.

But now most of those Towns
and Burroughs (that formerly
flourished by their Fishing) are
reduced to miserable Pover-
ty, and Thousands of Families
ruined for want of the Fishery.

And the Gentlemen who have
Estates in those Places, or near
the

The Dedication.

the Coast, are exceedingly impair'd.

Of which Calamity, King Henry the 8th had undoubtedly a fore-sight of, as appears by the Statute of 33 of his Reign, 'tis there thus inserted; because the English Fishermen dwelling on the Sea Coasts, did leave off their Trade of Fishing in our Seas, and went the half Seas over; and thereupon they did buy Fish of Pickards, Flemmings, Normands and Zealanders, by reason whereof, many Incommodities did grow to the Realm, viz. The Decay of the Wealth and Prosperity, as well of the Cinque-Ports, and Members of the same, as of other Coast-ing-Towns by the Sea-side, which were builded, and inhabited

The Dedication.

ted by great Multitudes of People, by reason of Using, and Exercising the Feat, and Craft of Fishing.

Secondly, The decay of a great Number of Boats and Ships.

And thirdly, the decay of many good Mariners, both able in Body, by their Diligence, Labour, and continual Exercise of Fishing; and Expert by reason thereof, in the Knowledge of our Sea-Coasts, as well within the Realm, as in other Parts beyond the Seas.

It was therefore Enacted, That no manner of Persons, English Denizons, or Strangers, at that time, or any time after, should buy any Fish of any Foreigners in the said Ports of Flanders, Zealand, Pickardy, or France,

The Dedication.

France, or upon the Sea between
Shoar and Shoar.

This shews what great Care
our former Kings, and Parlia-
ments have taken to Preserve
the Nursery for Sea-faring Men,
for the Defence of the King-
dom, and for the Preservation
of our Coasting Towns, &c.

And, have therefore thought
fit in all Humility to Dedicate
this Book to you, as before-
mentioned. If my sincere In-
tentions to serve the Kingdom,
have its desired Success, I have
my wish, who am

Your most humble

And most obedient

Servant,

J. Gander.

A
VINDICATION
OF A
National Fishery, &c.

BY the Benign Goodness of
God, and by the Wise
Conduct of our King,
and the Admirable Wis-
dom, and prudent Care of our
Sage Senatours at Home :

England, after a tedious and
Chargeable War, hath obtained
an Honourable Peace.

And the Sword being now
Sheathed ; His Majesty in his
most Gracious Speech to both
Houses of Parliament, hath de-
clared

clared His Royal Inclination, for the Preservation of the Safety, Honour, and Happiness of the Kingdom, &c.

So that it is not to be doubted but that the Genius of our Government, will make it the Chiefest of their Care, to Settle the Affairs of Trade, upon the most firmeſt Foundation, for the publick Good of our Nation. For the moſt deſtructive Conſumption that can happen to a Kingdom, and the only Nurſe of Idleneſs and Beggary, is Want of Trade; whereas on the contrary, Increate of Trade, encourageth Labour, Art and Invention, and enricheth the Common-Weal.

And beyond all Diſpute, the Fiſhery of *England*, is the Main Trade of this Kingdom, rightly Managed; The good Patriots of our Country are to weigh the Matter: And it is ſo comprehensive a Bleſſing, that were thoſe Advantages but Induſtriouſly improved,

proved, that Providence hath bestowed on this Island, we might consequently be the most Flourishing People in the whole World, both by Sea and Land.

And seeing by the Decay of the *Fishing Trade*, we have lain open to *France*, and *Holland*, by neglecting our own Preservation, and ill Management of the *Fishery* amongst our selves, it may be supposed, it is high time to look to it. But whether this Great Loss to the Kingdom hath been occasioned by our Wilful, or inadvertent Neglect: I shall not determine; and hope it will speedily be taken into the Consideration of the most Judicious Patriots of our Countrey. And then we shall draw back the Trade from Foreign Nations, and Employ our own People.

The Great and Weighty Question upon this Point of Trade to be considered, is: Whether it is not the General Interest of

England, to Revive and Encourage a *National Fishery*, it being the Main Pillar of the Trade of this Nation; And humbly offer my weak Opinion of the Necessity of it; For *England* being Situated in the very Jaws of Neptune, by her commodious Harbours, Rivers and Bays, &c. must be Defended by Shipping; and she is the best accommodated with Sea-Ports of any Place in Christendom, and stands fairest to be Lords of the Sea of any People in the World.

This Kingdom being an Island comparatively, were it, not for that Isthmus or Neck of Land to the North, that joyns it to *Scotland*. It must be universally allow'd, that her Floating Castles must defend her from all Foreign Invasions or Incursions.

And since she is obliged to defend her self by Naval-Force. It should be considered how that must be maintain'd and preserv-
ed;

ed: For, without those Bul-
Warks, the Kingdom, and con-
sequently the rest of the Domi-
nions must be in a few years,
in a very deplorable Condition.

And nothing is more certain
than, that it is the Sea enrich-
eth the Land, which is confirmed
by the great Advantages of get-
ting Treasure, by Navigation
both at home and abroad; as is
manifested by the Grandeur that
Merchants generally live in, in
England, Holland, France, &c.
History gives a very Satisfactory
Account of this Truth; How the
Venetians have arrived to that
Greatness they now live in by
Navigation, and by their Naval
Force, claim a Prerogative of the
Adriatick Sea.

And also, to what Greatness
hath the *French* King attained to
by Navigation in a few years,
that he gives Laws in the *Me-
diterranean* Sea.

B } And

And the *Hollanders* by their Navigation are grown, as Opulent (almost) if not altogether, as any People in the World.

But in Queen *Elizabeths* Reign of Blessed Memory, *England* gave so Fatal an Overthrow to the *Spanish* Armado in Anno 1588, that she was the Terror of the Whole Universe, by being so Potent by Sea; and after Her Majesties Success of that Famous Victory, she was as much Aggrandized by Foreign Princes, for Her Conquest, as she would undoubtedly have been despised, had she been overcome.

But how *England* has declined since Her Reign, for want of the *Fisbery* for Nursery for Seafaring Men, is obvious to the whole World.

Woful Experience tells us, how much our Neighbours have grown upon us; by this Neglect of ours, by the Wealth they have got within this forty or fifty years; and also

also by their daily Increase of
of Shipping.

And for want of true Tele-
scope to see clearly how this
National Fishery may be preserv'd
and maintain'd, we are and have
been many years, in the dark.

It is not only the Fish that
we loose, and the impoverishing
the Coasting Towns, and Bur-
roughs, the only Loss that this
Nation sustains; But for want of
a prudent Method to Manage
this *Fishery*. We have only the *Colony*
Colour for a Nursery for Sea-
men, which will not breed a
tenth part of the Men we have
occasion for in time War, as we
are an Island.

Further, the *Hollanders* and
French, finds these Advantages
(by Encouraging of the *Fishery's*,
that they do not only get Wealth;
but it inures their Men to the Hard-
ship of the Sea, and makes them
Skilful in Handling their Tack-
ling in Pilotage and Navigation.)

So that they know our own Coasts, Shoals and Harbours, better than we do.

Vide
Seld. Ma-
re Clau-
sum. 138.

But the Antient *Britains* permitted none to Fish on our Coasts, or in our Seas, nor any to Sail into the Island, without their Leave, and those only Merchants; nor would not permit any Foreigner to View or Sound their Sea-Coasts,

Which was undoubtedly a great Security to them, and Encouragement to their Pilots; but now, 'tis observable, that the *Hollanders* seldom make use of *English* Pilots, to come into any of our Harbours; and if they have Occasion to Man out a Fleet of Men of War, 'tis but making a Draught out of the Fishery, and they are put on Board their own Climate.

Whereas, to the great Detriment of this Nation, and Loss of our Men; when we have occasion to Man the Royal Navy,

we

we are forc'd to press Tag, Rag, and Bob-Tail, a parcell of Low-fy Vagrants and Vagabonds, that have not Prowess to make them Soldiers, nor Genius to make them Mariners; and while they are in Harbour, Eat up the Nations Provision: And when they come to be Roll'd and Toss'd by the Waves at Sea, they are as sick as so many Dogs, and infect great Numbers of Sea-Faring-Men, * by which great Inconveniency, renders them more fit for an Hospital, than a Fighting Navy; as is seen in time of War, and our Sea Commanders the daily Witness of this Calamity.

* And
many dies,

And it cannot be deny'd, but that it was the *Fisbery* of *England*, that supplied Queen *Elizabeths* Navy with Seamen, and made her so Potent, to give so Fatal an Overthrow to the *Spaniards*, That, that one Blow was so Great a Loss, that they will never Retrieve it, nor be able to
oppose

oppose us either by Sea or Land.

And Her Clemency to the *Hollanders*, in giving them Permission to Fish on our Coasts, was the very first Foundation that they laid, to raise themselves to their present Grandeur, and by the Wealth they have got, and Shipping, by their Breeding of Sea-Faring Men, they are rendered very Formidable at Sea.

It is worth the while, saith the Reverend Mr. *Cambden*, to observe *what an extraordinary Gain the Hollanders, and Zealanders, do make by Fishing on the English Seas, having first obtained Leave from the Castle of Scarboursough; For the English have ever granted them Leave to Fish, reserving always the Honour and the Privilege to themselves; but through Negligence resigning the Profit unto Strangers, 'tis almost incredible, saith he, what a vast Sum of Money the Hollanders do make by this Fishing upon our Coast.*

‡Rich. 2.
Fitz Herbert. Tit.
Protection.
46.

And

And in *Edward* the Fourth's Reign, *He ordered Commanders with a Naval Power, to protect and Guard the Fisher-men upon the Coasts of *Norfolk*, and *Suffolk*, and the Charges of the Guard were defrayed by the Fishermen; The *English* Nation were ever in past Ages Renowned for Sea-Affairs, in all Countries near the Seas; and they had also a Numerous Navy, that the People of all Countries Esteemed, and call'd the King of *England*, King and Sovereign of the Seas.

* Rob. Belknap, An Eminent Judge in his time. affirmed, e That the Sea is subject to the King, as a part of this Kingdom, or of the Patrimony of the Crown.

☞ And why *England* should not now insist upon the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas, as in former times, seems very Wonderful!

But some People may say, that in case this *Fisbery* were Encouraged, it may be a Means to prevent Eating so much Flesh, as we do now in *England*: and so consequently, be very prejudicial to our Landed-Men, and bring

bring the Rents of the Farms lower.

But this with Submission, is a very Erroneous Notion.

For Example: The Fish that may or should be Caught in the *British* Seas, is not intended to be eat in *England*, and perhaps not one Huudredth part of it, but to be sold at foreign Markets; as in due time shall be observed.

And to make it appear, that if a *National Fishery* be encouraged, it will cause a greater Consumption of Flesh than is now in *England*, and consequently, rather encrease than diminish the Rents of our Landed Gentlemen, and in few Years might double the Rents, as the *Fishery* flourish'd, and our Trade encrease both at home, and abroad.

I Humbly Offer these Reasons ;
First, Our Coasting Towns,
Bouroughs and Villages Adjacent,
that

that formerly had their dependance on the *Fisbery*, are reduced to so great Poverty, for want of being Employ'd, that they are now constrain'd to feed upon Coarse-Bread, Butter, Cheese, Milk, Turnips, Carrots, or on such Roots and Herbs, as they can get:

Whereas if they were Employed in this *Fisbery*, they would then have Money to go to Market, and buy Flesh, as their Ancestors did before them, for themselves, and Families: And I suppose there is not any Man, but what is sensible that the *English* naturally loving Flesh, the meanest Man or Woman in the Kingdom would have Roast and boyl'd Meat for themselves and Families, as well as their Landlords, if their Purse would bear it.

So that then there would be a greater Consumption of Flesh than there is now, not only in our Coasting Towns, &c. but in all
pro-

probability, through the whole Kingdom, when once we flourish in this *Fisbery*.

This Great and Glorious Undertaking will not only enrich us, but Employ thousands of People that are now so miserable Poor, that they gradually Starve for want of having this Encouragement.

And what is worthy your particular Notice, it would prevent abundance of Sea-faring Men from going into Foreign Service in times of Peace, for want of Employment at home; many of them leaving their Wives and Children to be maintained by the Parish, which undoubtedly is a great Grievance to the respective Parishes, and a Burthen to the Inhabitants. And this *Fisbery* would not only preserve thousands of Families from Starving, but then they would wear better Cloaths, and promote our Woollen Manufactury; For 'tis only

ly Poverty makes People wear Rags; and being disheartned, it oftentimes prevents their Devotion.

And it will also prevent a great many Inconveniencies, that now attend this Nation, for want of being Employed.

For Example: There would not be so many Vagrants and Vagabonds, nor so many People that take illegal Courses; as Thieving, Robbing, &c. to the Ruine of themselves and others. Nor so many Export our Corn, nor carry our Wooll unwrought out of the Kingdom, if they were employed another way.

This *Fisbery* would also employ abundance at Land, so well as by Sea; as Clerks, Accomptants, Ware-house and Store-keepers, and the like, and great Numbers of Artists and Tradesmen: So that then there would be Provision for a great many Men, that go Crawling about the Streets,

Streets, like so many Snails, for want of Employ, that have been well Educated.

Besides, 'tis an Universal Maxim, *That Idleness is the Root of all Evil*; and a great many People fear Starving more than Hanging, as is seen almost every Session, or Assizes; For let the Judge enquire of the Criminals, what induced them to take the lewd Courses they are Indicted, or Arraigned for, the General Reply, is Want.

Further, it is supposed by all that have travelled, in the Low-Countries, that where one Malefactor is Executed in *Holland* or in *France*, there is above One hundred in *England*; and the only Reason that can be given, why there are so few in *Holland* and *France*, and so many executed in *England*, is, That they take care to employ their Subjects; and those that are incapable by Age, or any other Infirmary for Labour, are

are provided for, by allowing them a Competent Maintenance to live on; (but 'tis the *Fishery* of *England*, that employs and enricheth them.) And the *Hollanders* themselves will boast, that God blesteth them in their Trading, and defends them from their Enemies, for being so good to the Poor. And it is a Confirmation of the Sacred Writ, *That he that Considereth the Indigent, the Lord will remember him in the day of his Tribulation.*

And what a great Glory will it be to the King and Kingdom, to preserve so many thousand Subjects, that are now involv'd in such miserable Necessity, that in all probability they must perish, if this Method be not speedily taken.

And since His Majesty has been Instrumental in Delivering these Kingdoms from Slavery, and *Poverty, &c.* 'tis to be supposed that he will also make it his Chiefest
C Care,

Care, to preserve his Subjects from Destruction (that have so Bravely Ventur'd their Lives, both by Sea and Land; and have paid their Money with so much Chearfulness to carry on the War. And have so long languished under their Afflictions.)

** The
King*

And He * having Maugred all Opposition, both at Home and Abroad, it now remains, that he attacks Himself, that His Goodness and Greatness, may vye with

*(b) The
Kingdom
would pro-
mote Trade*

each other, by enquiring, (b) what is to be done to retrieve them from their withering Calamity.

And 'tis believed by all well-wishers, to the Welfare of these Kingdoms, that His Majesty will Sign all those Acts, that shall be for His Glory, the Senatours Honour, and the preserving so well as enriching of his Subjects. When he shall be Advised to it by his Parliament, in whom he has so great Confidence, as he hath often declared for the Good
of

of his People, in His most Gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, which are too tedious here to insert.

And having made the proud Lillies of *France* stoop to him, and Recovered the Principality of *Orange*, he will now Assume his Trident. And to Emulate his Royal Predecessor, *William* the I. Conquerour of *England*, who, after being possessed of the Kingdom, took a View of it in a Royal Progress, and then did see there was an incumbent Necessity to defend this Realm by Shipping (altho' he set fire of his own Fleet at his Landing, to let his Men know his Intentions:

Aut Caesar aut Nullus.) Whereupon he demolished several Villages in *Hampshire*, and there planted a large Forrest of Oaks, (c.) which to this day is call'd *New Forrest*, it being above two and twenty Miles in length, and eleven Miles over.

(c) All intended for Building Men of War, as a Guard to the Kingdom.

This shews what Care our Ancestors from time to time, have taken to secure this Island by Navigation, and for providing Ships of Force, as well as for Commerce; the one to Enrich, the other to defend, as well our Trading by Sea) as the Island from Invasion.

And if we had the Mines of Mexico and Peru, in this Kingdom, unless they were secured by Force of Arms, they would undoubtedly lie open to any that would invade us.

For there is no Dominion that can expect to flourish in Trade, or be enriched by Commerce, if they do not secure themselves by Force, either by Sea or Land, as Opportunity offers, or the Necessity requires.

'Tis undoubtedly the Interest of the Nation to stand as well upon their Guard in times of Peace, as in War; that they may give no Opportunity to an Enemy to Surprise us, by Sea, or Land.

And since there is so great a Necessity for the Defence of the Nation, to support our Navigation by this *Fishery*, certainly our
Sena-

Senatours will take Care that the Grandeur of these Glorious Kingdoms shall not be ecclipsed by the growing Greatness of our Neighbours, who have, and still do encroach upon the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas, which is the only Diadem of the Imperial Crown of these Dominions; and the Port Cullizes and Guard of the Realm.

But the *Fisbery*, if encouraged, will be for the Good of the Kingdom in General, from the King to the Peasant (or meanest Subject) and in some measure take off the Burthen of the Taxes this Nation hath so long struggl'd under; and not only make the Exchequer the Greatest Bank in the World, but oblige the Treasure of the *East* and *West-Indies*, comparatively, to meet in our Streets; And also preserve a perpetual Union amongst the Subjects of *England*, let them be never so Retrogade in their Opinion, as to their Profession of Religion.

And this happy Union will prevent all Intestine Commotions; and bid Defiance to all Foreign Invasions, or Incurfions.

And it cannot be denied, but that *England* had formerly the richest *Fisbery* in the World; when we maintain'd the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas; and by Computation, had above 800 Fishing Ships; and had it been Encourag'd, by a reasonable Increase, we must have had now, between 2 and 3000 Fishing Ships; And nothing can be more true, than that the *Fisbery* of *England*, is the Main Pillar of the Trade and Defence of this Nation. And it will not only raise the Naval Force of *England*, but by its Growth and Flourishing, be a Curb, to keep under the growing Power of the *French* and *Hollanders*, and bring in Great Treasure to the Kingdom, as afore-said.

And

And further, if this Nursery for Seamen were Encouraged, the Merchants would never want Men to carry their Ships to Sea, nor be in danger of having their Men press'd in time of War (which is a great Detriment to our Trade, and Loss to the King and Kingdom) for then we should have Sea-faring Men, and Mariners enough, to serve the Kingdom.

And in regard that some people may say that there will not be constant Employ for our Seamen in the *Fisbery* in times of Peace; and so prevent their going into Foreign Service for want of Employ at Home: I have particulariz'd the respective Seasons for Fishing, throughout the Year, in the *British* Seas.

*Of the Miraculous Treasure of the
British Seas.*

THE Coast of *Great-Britain* doth produce a continual Harvest of Profit and Benefit to all that do Fish there; and such Shoals and Multitude of Fishes are offer'd to the Takers, that it makes an Admiration to those that are employ'd among them.

The Summer Fishing for Herrings, beginneth about *Midsummer*, lasteth some part of *August*.

The Winter Fishing for Herring, from *September*, to the middle of *November*; both which extend from *Benghonest* in *Scotland*, to the River *Thames* Mouth, being a Run of above a hundred Leagues.

The Fishing for Cod, at *Alumby*, *Whirlington*, and *White-Haven*, near the Coast of *Lancashire*, from *Easter* till *Whitsuntide*.

The

The Fishing for Hake, at *Aberdenie*, *Abveswitch*, and other places between *Wales* and *Ireland*, from *Whitsuntide*, to *St. James-Tide*.

The Fishing for Cod and Ling, about *Padstow*, within the Land; and of *Severn*, from *Christmas* to *Midlent*.

The Fishing for Cod on the West part of *Ireland*, frequented by those of *Biscay*, and *Portugal*, from the beginning of *April* until the end of *June*.

The Fishing for Cod and Ling on the *North* and *North-East* of *Ireland*, from *Michaelmas* to *Christmas*.

The Fishing for Pilchers on the *West-coast* of *England*, from *St. James tide* until *Michaelmas*.

The Fishing for Cod and Ling, upon the *North East* of *England*, from *Easter* to *Miasummer*.

The Fishing of great Staple-Ling, and many other Sorts of Fish lying about the Island of
Scot

Scotland, and in the several parts of the *British* Seas all the Year long.

In *September*, not many years since, upon the Coast of *Devonshire* near *Minegal*, five hundred Tun of Fish were taken in one day. And about the same time, three thousand pounds worth of Fish, in one day were taken at *St. Ives* in *Cornwal*, by small Boats.

✧ Our five Men Boats and Cobles, adventuring in a Calm, to Launch out amongst the *Hollands* Busses, not far from *Robinhood's* Bay, returned to *Whitby*, full freighted with Herrings, and reported that they had seen some of those Busses take ten, twenty, and twenty four Lasts at a Draught of Herring, and returned into their own Country with forty, fifty, and a hundred Lastes of Herring in one Buss.

Our

11 Our Fleet of Colliers, not many years since, returning from *Newcastle*, laden with Coals, about the Wells, near *Flamborough Head*, and *Scarborough*, met with such Multitudes of Cod, Ling, and Herring, that one among the rest, with certain Ship Hooks, and other like Instruments, drew up as much Cod, and Ling, in a little time, as sold for well nigh as much as her whole Lading of Coals.

And many hundred of Ships might have been laden in two Days, and two Nights.

Now what great Inconvenience and Detriment is this to the *English* Nation; That we do not Encourage a *National Fishery*, that we may retrieve those Great Advantages, that we have so long taken no Notice of, in regard we can Employ our Seamen throughout the whole *Annual*?

And

And out of which wonderful Affluence and Abundance of Fish, swarming in our Seas; that we may the better perceive the Infinite Gain, which Foreign Nations make :

I will especially insist upon the Fishing of the *Hollanders* on our Coasts; and thereby shew, how by this Means principally they have risen, to the Greatness of their present Grandeur :

1. In Shipping.
2. In Mariners.
3. In Trade, at home and abroad,
4. In Towns and Fortifications.
5. In Power at home and abroad.
6. In Publick Revenue.
7. In Private Wealth.
8. In all manner of Provisions, and Stores of Things Necessary for the Preservation of Mankind, and Munitions of War.

Encrease Shipping.

☞ Besides seven hundred Strand Boats, four hundred Evars, and four

four hundred Sullits, Drivers, and Tod-Boats, wherewith the *Hollanders* Fish upon our Coasts, every one of these employing another Ship, to fetch Salt, and carry the Fish into other Countries; being in all three thousand Sail; maintaining and setting on Work, at least twelve thousand persons; Fishers, Tradesmen, Women and Children. They have above (as it is supposed) one hundred Doyer-Boats, of one hundred and fifty Tuns apiece, or thereabouts, seven hundred Pinks and Well-Boats, from sixty to one hundred Tuns Burthen, which altogether Fish upon the Coast of *England*, and *Scotland*, for Cod and Ling only.

✠ And each of these Employ another Vessel, for providing Salt, and Transporting of their Fish, making in all, one thousand six hundred Ships; which Maintain and Employ persons of all Sorts, four thousand at least. For the
Her-

Herring Season, they have one thousand six hundred Busses at the least, all of them Fishing only on our Coast, from *Bongbonefs* in *Scotland*, to the mouth of the *Thames*.

And every One maketh work for three other Ships, to attend her; the one to bring Salt from Foreign parts; another to carry the said Salt and Cask to the Busses, and to bring back their Herring, and the Third to Transport the Herring into Foreign Markets; So that the Total Number of Ships and Busses, plying the Herring-Fare, is six Thousand four hundred Ships; where every Bus, one with another, Employs forty Men, Mariners and Fishers within her own Hold; and rest, ten Men apiece, which amounteth to One hundred twelve thousand Fishers and Mariners. All which maintain double, if not treble so many Tradesmen, Women, and Children by Land.

Besides

Besides, they have generally four hundred Vessels at least, that take Herring at *Yarmouth*, and there sell them for Ready-Money; so that the *Hollanders* (besides three hundred Ships, beforementioned, Fishing upon their own Coasts or Shoars: have at least four thousand eight hundred Ships, onely maintain'd by the Seas of *Great-Britain*. And to this Number, they undoubtedly add every day; although their Countrey neither affords Victuals, nor Materials, nor Merchandize to set them forth.

Yet by the Great Advantages that they have got by Fishing on our Coast, they abound in every Thing that is fit for the Use of Mankind.

Encrease of Mariners.

The Number of Ships, Fishing on our Coasts, as being aforesaid, four thousand eight hundred, if we allow but twenty

ty persons to every Ship, one with another, the Total of Mariners and Fishers amounteth to One hundred sixty eight Thousand, out of which number they daily furnish their Ships, to the *East* and *West-Indies*, to the *Mediterranean*, and for their Grand Fleet of Men of War; for by this means they are not only enabled to brook the Seas and know the Use of their Tackles and Compass, but are likewise instructed in the knowledge of Navigation and Pilotage, insomuch, that from hence their greatest Navigators have had their Educations and Knowledge of the Sea.

observ.

Encrease of TRADE.

By reason of those Multitude of Ships and Mariners, they have extended their Trade to all Parts of the World, Exporting for the most part, in all their Voyages, our Herrings, and other Fish, which

which they Catch upon our Coasts, or in the *British* Seas, for the Maintenance of the same.

Note, That we might make the same advantages of our Fish abroad, did we encourage this National-Fishery.

In Exchange whereof they return these several Commodities from other Countries: From the Southern Parts, as *France, Spain, and Portugal*; for our Herrings, and other Fish, they return Oyls, Wines, Pruens, Honey, Woolls, Leather, with Store of Coin in Specie.

From the *Streights*; Velvets, Sattins, and all Sorts of Silks, Aloms, Currants, Oyls, and all Grocery-Ware, with much Money.

From the East-Countries for our Herrings, and other *French*, and *Italian* Commodities, before returned, they bring Home Corn, Wax, Flax, Hemp, Pitch, Tarr, Soap-Ashes, Iron, Copper, Steel, Clap-board, Wain-scot, Timber, Deal-board, Dollars, &c.

From *Germany*, for Herrings and other Salt Fish, Iron, Mill-
D stones,

stones, Rhenish-Wines, Plate-Buttons for Armour, with other Munition, too tedious to insert; Silks, Velvets and Rushes Fustians, Baratees, and such like *Frankford* Commodities; with Store of Rix Dollars.

From *Brabant* and *Flanders*: they return for the most part Ready-Money, with some Tapestries, and some other Commodities; and some of our Herrings are carried so far as *Brassil*.

And that which is more strange, and to our great dishonour, they have generally four hundred Ships, which Fish in sight of *Tarmouth*, and vend the Herrings in *England*, and make us pay Ready-Money for our own Fish.

Sir Josiah Child in his Discourse of Trade, in the end of his Preface, is pleased to say, That he hath exposed his Conceptions to the Publick Censure, with an Assurance, that they will be received and Honoured with a Publick

Publick Sanction, and past into Laws; and thus begins his Book.

'The Prodigious Increase of the *Netherlands* in their Domestick and Forreign Trade, Riches, and Multitude of Shipping, is the envy of the Present, and may be the Wonder of future Generations.

Here he sets out the Riches of *Holland*, and backs it on with an Addition, in several subsequent Expressions in his Book: They are *Sampsons*, and *Goliaths*, in Trade: Sons of *Anach*; Men of Renown, Masters of the field; like a Prevailing Army that Scorns to build Castles and Fortresses, to secure themselves as we do by Art of our Navigation; And to Advance their Glory herein, he tells us, that we are but *Dwarfs*, and *Pigmies*, in Stocks and Experience, &c.

But he takes no Notice that they have attained to their Greatness by Fishing on our Coasts; and that we were the *Sampson's*

and *Goliath's* in Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign, and they the *Pigmies*, as shall be made appear more at large.

And the Honoured Author goes further on in his Preface, and tells us, that were they freed from the *French* Fears, they would be Worse than Task-Masters over us in Trade, considering their Treasure.

That the Trade of the *English* Nation is in a very bad Circumstances, is plainly seen by all thinking Men; And since it is Practical among Kings and Princes, and Sates, to Joyn one with another (or enter into a Confederacy) to oppose a King, or Prince, that is Growing too great, that if they do not endeavour to Suppress him, it may be a Means to lie open to them whenever he intends to make an Invasion or Incurfion into their Dominions, or Invade their Territories.

And whether it is not now high

high time, considering those vast Improvements of the *Hollanders* and *French*, to depress the Growing Greatness of our Neighbours, must be left to the Great Wisdom of our Senatours ; And also, whether a longer Continuance of their Fishing on our Coasts will not be a further Encouragement to their Encroachments, and our own Title, as to the antient Sovereignty of the *British* Seas?

By this their large Extent of Trade, they are become Citizens of the whole World, whereby they have so enlarged their Towns, that most of them within this Hundred Years, are full as big again as they were before ; as *Amsterdam*, *Rotterdam*, *Dort*, *Middleburgh*, &c. having been twice enlarged, their Streets and Buildings are orderly set forth, that for Beauty and Strength, they may Compare with any other Cities in the World ; upon which they bestow infinite Sums

of Money; All this Originally flowing from the Bounty of the *British* Seas, from whence by their Labour and Industry, they derive the beginning of all that Wealth and Greatness; and particularly for the Havens of the aforesaid Towns, whereof some of them Cost Forty, Fifty, or an Hundred thousand pounds: their Fortifications, both for Number and Strength, (upon which they have bestowed innumerable Sums of Money) as well upon their Frontiers, as Ports, and may Vye with any People in the World,

Encrease of Power abroad.

☞ Such being the Number of the Ships and Mariners, and so great their Trade, Occasioned Principally by their Fishing, they have not only Strengthened, and Fortified themselves at Home, and to Repel all Foreign Invasions; But have likewise Stretched their
Power

Power to the *East* and *West Indies*, and in many Places thereof, they are Lords of the Sea-Coasts; and have likewise Fortified upon the Main: And more than this, all the Neighbouring Princes, in their differences by reason of this their Greatness at Sea, are glad to have them of their Party, as was exemplified, when the Wars were between the *Danes* and the *Swedes*, the *Hollanders* were for the King of *Denmark*, and Lent him *Vantrump* to be his Admiral, who had the Success of Sinking the *Swedish* Admiral, and overthrew the *Swedish* Fleet.

This is a Confirmation how much they are in Esteem for their Strength at Sea, and that one would think ought to be a President for *England*, to Preserve our Naval-Force.

Encrease of Publick Revenue.

*Note, if
this Nation-
al Fishery
were encour-
aged, there
would un-
doubtedly
acruce to the
Crown, a-
bove
400000l.
per An-
num.*

Moreover; how mightily the Publick Revenue, and Custom of that State is increased by their Fishing on our Coasts, may appear in this; that above forty years since, over and above the Customs of other Merchandize, Excises, Licenses, Waftage and Lastage, there was paid to the States for Custom of Herring, and other Salt Fish, above five hundred thousand pounds in one year, besides the tenth Fish, and Cask paid, and for Waftage, which cometh to at least as much more, among the *Hollanders* only: Whereto the tenth of other Nations being added, it amounteth to a far greater Sum.

We are likewise to understand that great part of their Fish that they take out of our Seas upon our Coasts, is sold in other Countries for Ready-Money, and they generally

nerally Import from Foreign Countries, of the finest Gold and Silver; coming home, Recoin it of a baser Allay under their own Stamp, by which means they exceedingly Augment their Publick Treasure.

Observation.

So that if *England* would encourage this *National Fishery*, we should Heap the same Advantages; (the Allay of the Coin only excepted,) which we cannot permit in *England*.

Encrease of Private Wealth.

As touching their Private Wealth; if we Consider the abounding Stores of Herrings, and other Fish by them taken on our Coasts, and the usual Prices that they are sold for; as also the Multitude of Tradesmen and Handicrafts Men, that by reason
of

of this their Fishing, are daily set on work, we must needs conclude, that the Gain and Profit thereof, made by Private Men, must of Necessity be exceeding Great; As by Observing the particulars following, will appear;

By *Dunkirk* Spoyling and Burning the Busses of *Holland*, and setting Great Ransom upon their Fishermen; Enforced them to compound for great Sums of Money; that they might Fish quietly for one year; whereupon the next year after the Fishermen agreed amongst themselves to pay to the States of *Holland* a Dollar, for every Last of Herring, towards the Maintenance of Certain Ships of War, to secure them in their Fishing on our Coasts, they having obtained Liberty from *England* for the same; By Reason whereof there was a Record kept of the several Lasts of Herrings that year, and it appeared thereby, that in
one

one Half year they had taken thirty thousand Lafts of Herrings, which at twenty pound *per* Laft, amounteth to three Millions Six hundred thousand pounds, at sixteen, twenty, and thirty, pounds a Laft, as they are Ordinarily sold (according as they Pick them) and then transported into other Countries, it cometh at least to five Millions; whereunto, if we add the Herrings taken by other Nations; As *France, Lubeck, Hamborough, Bremen, Biscay, Portugal, Spain, &c.* which for the most part Fish in our Seas; together with Cod, Ling, Hake, and other Fish, and taken by the *Hollanders* upon the *British* Coasts, all the year long, the Total will Modestly and Evidently arise to above ten Millions. *per Annum.*

But Admit it did amount to but five Millions; what a vast Loss is it for our Nation to sustain?

The

The great Trade of Fishing, Employing so many Ships at Sea, must likewise maintain an innumerable number of Tradesmen and Artists by Land; As Spinners, Hemp-Winders to Cables, Cordage, Yarn, Twine for Nets and Lines; Weavers, to make Sail-Cloths, Cefive, Packers, Tollers, Dressers, and Cowchers, to sort and make the Herrings lawful Merchandize; Tanners, to Tan their Sails and Nets; Coopers, to make Cask, Block, and Boul-makers for Ships, Keelmen, and Labourers for carrying and removing their Fish: Sawyers for Planks, Carpenters, Shipwrights, Smiths, Carmen, Boatmen, Brewers, Bakers, and a great Number of others, whereof many are maimed Persons, and unfit to be otherwise Employed, Children and Families; And further, every Man and Maid-Servant having any poor Stock, may venture the same in their Fishing-Voyages, which

which affords them Ordinarily,
Great Increase, and is duly paid
according to the Proportion of
their Gain.

Encrease of Provision.

observ.

And further it is well known,
that *Holland* it self, only doth af-
ford a few Hops, Madders, But-
ter and Cheese, and yet aboundeth
in a very bountiful Manner, (by
Reason of this Art of Fishing)
in all kind of Provision, so well
for Life as Commerce; As in
Beef, Mutton, Veal, Corn, &c.
In Cloths and Leather, and
Wines, Silks, Spices; and for to
Defend themselves by Sea, they
have Pitch, Tarr, Cordage, and
Timber, Iron, Steel, Cannon,
and all Manner of Small Arms,
for the Service of their Land
Forces.

Of

Of all which they have not only Enough to Supply themselves, but from their Magazines, are able to furnish their Neighbouring Countries.

And if this Fishery is not encouraged, it must certainly redound to the Ignominy of the *English* Nation, to permit Strangers to Fish on our Seas, and Impoverish our Selves to make them Rich; Insomuch that for want of Encouraging this Fishery, above two Hundred Towns, Burroughs and Villages are Ruin'd (that formerly were enriched by Fishing) and the Inhabitants reduced to Miserable Want.

Whereas on the Contrary, by our Sedulous endeavouring to make use of this Great Blessing, we might in a few years, Repair the decayed Towns, and the Losses of this Kingdom; and not only prevent the Destruction of Thousands
of

of Families, and grow so Potent by Sea, that none durst oppose us.

And beyond all Dispute, had our Ancestors (in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*) been told that either the *French* or *Hollanders*, should ever have been so Powerful by Sea, as to appear with that Naval Force as they have done on our Seas, they would have thought they had been the greatest Lyars and Impostors in the World, which is now too manifestly known, not only to this Kingdom, but to the whole Universe.

And how can it be supposed, that we shall be able to Defend our selves against any Invasion or Incurſion, that a Foreign Enemy may make, unless we Preserve the Foundation of those Floating Castles that must secure the Island?

Which

*Which without Controversie is a
National-Fishery.*

When 'tis daily visible that the *French* and *Hollanders* had never attained to that Force by Sea, they are now arrived to, if it had not been Encouraged by this Neglect of ours; which in all Probability may prove the giving the Sword out of our own Power, and to the last Degree prove Fatal to the *English* Nation, if not speedily prevented.

And since God and Nature hath Offered so great a Treasure, and lays it at our own Doors; should we not be exceedingly to Blame, if we do not accept of such a Wonderful Blessing, which no People in the World but our selves can boast of, to enjoy in so Bountiful a manner as this is, Bestowed on us?

The

The Right Method to be taken to Retrieve and Secure our Priviledges, ought to be the Great and Speedy Care of the best Patriot of our Country; I might give here many Reasons for defending the Right of the *Fisbery* to our own Subjects, as upon the Reason of Justice, Prudence and Interest, and the Right of our Sovereignty of the *British* Seas, admits of no Dispute.

Some Men may say, that it is not a proper time to insist upon, or Dispute the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas.

For these Reasons.

First, the King is a *Hollander* Born.

Secondly, that He hath an Estate and Revenues in *Holland*.

Thirdly, if the States of *Holland* had not Assisted his Majesty with their Navy and Army,

my, in his Expedition against King *James*, he would not have Succeeded in his Design.

Fourthly, That the States of *Holland* may insist, that if they had not Assisted *England* in the Distress they were involved in King *James's* Reign, they had not been Delivered from Tyranny and Popery, &c.

In Answer to these Objections, I Humbly Offer these Considerations.

As to the *First*, It is true, the King was Born in *Holland*, and by the Mothers side *English*, but now His Majesty is Espoused to *England* by his Coronation Oath, and therefore, according to the Sacred Writ, will (no doubt) cleave unto his Wife.

And let some Mens mistakes be what they will, He must undoubtedly have a Greater Esteem for the *English* and for *England*, that hath Crowned him with the

the Imperial Diadem of these Kingdoms and Dominions, than for the *Hollanders*, if once they should oppose the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas, which is now his Right, as hath been acknowledged by *Hugo Grotius*, upon the Innauguration of King *James* the First of *England*, He rendereth this Magnificent Character of him.

Tria Sceptra Profundi in Mag- *Hugo Grotius Lib. 1, Lib. 2.*
ne Cojere Ducem; which is, that the Rights of *English*, *Scottish*, and *Irish* Seas, are united under one Scepter, neither is he Satisfied with this bare Profession, but he goes on, *Sume animos à Rege tuo, Quis det Jura Mari*; which is, Take Courage from the King, who giveth Laws to the Sea: And in the same Book, in contemplation of so great a Power, he Concludeth. *Finis Hic est qui Fine caret*, &c. that is, This is an End beyond an End, a Bound that
 E 2 know-

knoweth no Bound; a Bound which even the Wind and the Waves must submit unto; This is the Acknowledgment of *Hugo Grotius* himself, that before he had disowned the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas in his *Mare Liberum*.

As to the Second Objection.

The King is not unsensible; that his Revenues in *England* doth far exceed those of *Holland*, and the only way to Secure his Interest there, must be by dint of Sword, for without that, he had never Regained the Principality of *Orange*; And it cannot be supposed that his Majesty should value these Kingdoms and Dominions at so slender a Rate, as to lie open to a Foreign Enemy for want of Encouraging a *National-Fishery*, which will be for his Glory, the Honour of the Kingdom, and the Publick

Publick Good in General; when he is convinced it is to be done, and thereby Secures the Interest and safety of his Dominions, both at Home and Abroad.

As to the Third Objection.

'Tis allowed, the States of *Holland* did Assist His Majesty with their Navy and Army; and in Answer to this, the King knows it may be proved from undeniable Record; That if *Queen Elizabeth* (of Blessed Memory) had not Assisted the States both by Sea and Land, when they First Revolted from the King of *Spain*, they would never been freed from the *Spanish* Yoke, nor a free State; And further, for Her Majestie's Assistance, Offer'd Her the Sovereignty of the *Netherlands*, in Consideration of Her Royal Bounty, and Goodness to them, after she had sent Threescore thousand pounds, up-

on the Account of Sir *Thomas Gresham*, in *Anno*, one Thousand five Hundred Seventy and two; so that it is supposed that not only the King but all Christendom knows, that the *Hollanders* owe their *Ab-Origine*, and the Greatness they are now attained to, from *England*: So this is but one Service done for another.

As to the Fourth Objection.

Beyond all Dispute the King and Kingdom hath taken Care to Pay the *Hollanders*, all the Charges they were at for the Navy and Army.

But it cannot be supposed that they would quit their Pretensions to the Sovereignty of the *British Seas*, which is the Main Pillar of the Nation.

As in the Preamble, of an Act of Parliament made in the 14. year of the Reign of King *Charles the Second*, it is thus inserted.

That

That the Wealth, Honour and Safety of this Realm; as well for the Maintainance of Trade, and Encouragement of Navigation, as in many other Respects, doth in a High Degree depend on the *Fisbery*.

And should God Almighty, out of his Infinite Mercy and Goodness, Inspire the King and Senatours, to Revive and Promote this *National-Fisbery*; It would be such a Comfort in Danger to this Nation, as the Honey *Sampson* found in the Lyons Jaws: And not onely the Coast-ing Towns, Burroughs and adjacent villages, be Enriched thereby; but the King and Kingdom in General, would find the Sweetness of it.

For did we but Secure the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas, it would not only make the whole World stand in awe of us, but Court us to buy our Fish.

For without, it is Impossible the *East* and *Northern* Countries should subsist, and in many other Places, Herrings are every days Meat, Winter and Summer, as well to draw on drink, as to satisfy Hunger and in many Places, the Greatest part of the year, they are Scarce to be had; for soon after *Michaelmas*, the Sound is Frozen, so that no Herrings can be Transported thither; And *France, Spain, Italy*, and the Rest of the Catholick Countries, could not keep Lent (without our Fish) which next to their own Salvation, they Tender most Dear, in Obedience to the Command of the Church of *Rome*.

'Tis Observable, that the *Hollanders* make it their Business to infect the People of *England*, that we cannot make the Advantage of the *Fisbery* as they do; and therefore it will be convenient to remove all the Vulgar Objections: Some will have it that
we

we want Men, and others, that our Men will never take to it.

As to the First, I Answer, That we have Men Enough, but they are Idle and live upon the Publick, without making any Return of their Labour, but let these People be Employ'd in the *Fishery*, and they Protected by an Act of Parliament, we shall soon have enough, and to spare; and it is a Great Happiness to this Kingdom, that we can Employ our Sea-faring Men in times of Peace, and 'tis so great a Blessing, that no Nation in the World has the like Opportunity of Employing and enriching themselves.

The Second (Exception or) Objection is; That the Genius of this Nation will never endure the Hardships of this Employment.

To which I Answer, That the *English* do run greater Hazards, and suffer greater Hardships in
their

their long, tedious, and unhealthy Voyages; as to the *East* and the *West-Indies*, and the *Turkey* Voyages, where many Men are lost, by reason of the Heat of the Climate, want of Provisions and Water, which in the *Fishery*, there is none of these Inconveniences to attend them, they being so often in and out of Port; and as to Labour, the working of a Mine is far beyond that of Fishing, where the Men sometimes Work up to the Middle in Water.—But to come nearer to the Point, the *English* is so far from having an Aversion against Fishing, that they apply themselves to it; for Example, after Harvest is in, and the Herring-Season comes on, the Country Fellows and Boys do go to the Coasting Towns, to be Hired into the *Fishery*; and do Generally take such a liking to it, that after 2 or 3 Voyages they very rarely return

to their Rural Employment, but take to the Sea altogether.

And further, I cannot imagine what Hardships the *Hollanders* can undergo in the Fishing, more than the *English* are willing to do; this is another Objection.

But this, beyond all dispute, is a very Erroneous Notion; for the Herring Fishing in the *English* Seas begins in *June*, and goes out in *November*; and that for the first four Months, it is the best time for Profit, Pleasure, and Fair-Weather; for we seldom look out after the Herring Fishing till *September*, and so continue to the end of *November*, which is the most Tempestuous Season in the Whole Annual; and then in *January*, we fit out for the *North* Seas, and spend the remaining part of Winter in all Extremities of Cold and Hardship; This is enough to Satisfie, that we are able to undergo as much Hardships as the *Hollanders*.

But

But however, I'll strain this point a little further; Suppose that the Winter Fishing would be too Hard for us, what Excuse can we have for not making our Improvements on the Summer Fishing, which is more advantageous abundantly;

Another Objection is, That the *Hollanders* can fare Harder than the *English*, in their course feeding, and Great Strefs is laid upon this; and that an *English* Man will never be able to live on so sparing a Diet as they do.

Now if it were so, and that an *English* Diet could not be had, and that a *Dutch* Diet would not serve us; but that is not our Condition; for he that cannot brook with the one may have the other; And I am induced to believe that Pork, Pease, and Beef, are much better and more Srengthening, than Roots and Cabbage, for the *Hollanders*
 Victual-

Victualling is the same with ours, for Beer, Biscuite, Butter, Cheefe; all which we can provide our selves with, much Cheaper than they: And to make Good the Defect of their Ordinary Provisions, they drink a great deal more Brandy than the *English* do; so then to take one thing with another, we Victual with Good Provisions, as Cheap or Cheaper than they do.

But besides the very suggestion of leaving a Good Diet, to go to a bad, is a very Great Error; for the Countrey Men that enter themselves on board the *Fishery*, fare far better at Sea than they did at Land; for besides their General Victualling, which they carry with them to Sea, they feed upon the Fish they Catch, which for Variety, being Fresh taken, is a Treat, to what a Person of Quality has at his Table a Shoar; and of pitiful weak Men at Land,

Land, in a Voyage or two, become Stout, Hearty, and Healthful Men.

There are two more Wolves in the way; First, that our Herrings are in no esteem abroad, because we have not the right way to cure them.

Secondly, we shall never make nothing on't, for the *Hollanders* will under-sell us, for Freighting Cheaper, and consequently beat us out of the Trade.

In answer to which; First, there are two ways of curing the Herrings, the one at Sea, where they are Gipp'd, immediately upon their taking, and Barrell'd; the other at Land, where they are Gipp'd, and Pack'd some days after they are taken; These we call Shoar-made-Herrings, and we know very well, that one Barrel of the other for Goodness, is worth one Hundred of these; and that they will never take their Pickle kindly, unless their
Throats

Throats be Cut, as soon as they are Caught; so that it is a great Error to take a Shoar-made-Herring, for a Tryal of Skill in curing; But for those that are made at Sea, they are made as Good, and as much in Esteem abroad as any of the *Hollanders* Herrings, and they have been frequently Sold in the *East-Country* for four pounds a Barrel; and I could wish we were no more to blame, for not taking them than curing them; But admit we did not know how to Cure them; I hope 'tis not impossible for the *English* to learn.

Secondly, the other Notion is, That the *Hollanders* will beat us off of our Trade; this is as Erroneous as the rest, and of no force at all against the *Fishery*, or it is much more Force against the Merchant, and the *Newcastle* Trade; for this lies under our Noses, and more in our convenience than any Body's else.

And

And to Neglect our Fishing upon this Consideration, is to Quit all Navigation, and leave our selves to the Mercy of the *Hollanders*, or to be made a Prey to any that will attack us.

And then to fear we shall want Vent, is to imagine that the People will leave off Eating, and a Great part of the Trading World is yet unserv'd with Fish, and it never could be made appear that our Herrings lay upon our Hands for want of a Market.

And since all these Objections are sufficiently answer'd, there is nothing wanting, but assuming our Antient Right, and taking Possession of the Fishery.

And notwithstanding it is so apparently made appear, that this *National Fishery* will redound so much to the Glory of the King, Honour of our Senatours Assembled in Parliament, and Welfare of the Kingdom in General.

We

We will suppose for Argument sake
 'tis all but West-*Paper*.

But here is the Question to be
 put to the King and Kingdom in
 General, if the growing Great-
 ness of the *French* and *Hollanders*,
 has so much Increased within this
 thirty or forty years last past, and
 still continue in the increasing of
 Sea-faring Men, Mariners, and
 their Naval Force; what will
 become of *England* in Ten or
 twenty years; when in all proba-
 bility, they may be so Potent
 (unless a speedy Check is put to
 their Carrier) that we shall not
 be able to oppose them?

And 'tis an Universal Maxim,
 that the Forces of Potentates at
 Sea: *Sont des Marques de Grandeur*
d'Etat, saith a *French* Author; Who-
 soever Commands the Sea, Com-
 mands the Trade of the World; He
 that Commands the Trade, Com-
 mands the Wealth of the World;
 and consequently the World it self.

F

Again;

Again ; as he that is Master of a Field, is said to be Master of every Town, when it shall please him ; so he that is Master of the Sea, may in some sort, be said, to be Master of every Countrey, at least of such as are bordering on the Sea ; For he is, at liberty to begin, and end War, where, when, and upon what Terms he pleaseth, and extend his Conquests even to the *Antipodes*.

And *England* being encompassed with the Sea, as aforesaid, and abounding in Commodious and Excellent Havens Bayes and Ports, it excels for Safety and Security (which is no small Braife) all the Neighbouring Countries in *Europe*, if not all in the World, and needs not fear any Neighbouring Nation, but only that which grows Potent in Shipping ; for they onely can deprive us of our Main Security ; And if an Island can make us as the Continent.

And

And if this Nation is once over power'd at Sea, we must expect to be the most miserable People in the Vniverse, having for so many Generations last past, Lorded it over the whole World by Sea; that the very Name of the *English* struck a Terror into all those that durst oppose them.

When *William* the First, subdued the Realm, Conquerour of *England* that was an easy Fall; it proving only prejudicial to some particular Families; And he Residing in the Kingdom, took all the care imaginable to preserve this Nation, as already has been said, by his Planting of a New-Forrest with Oaks, to his perpetual Glory.

But if once the Naval Power of *England* be overcome by the *French* or *Hollanders*; (According to all Human Probability) it must prove a Fatal overthrow, so far as they can reach with Fire and Sword, being Spurr'd on by Ambition, and Avarice, Revenge

venge and Interest ; and then we should find the *English* saying to be too True ; That the *French* and *Hollanders* are like Fire and Water ; Good Servants but bad Masters.

And it is most certain, that there is no other way to Maintain the Glory and Grandeur of this Kingdom but by Raising a *National-Fisbery* ; which rightly understood, is the *Primum Mobile* of the Nation ; 'tis the only *Palladium* of this Realm, without which, 'tis impossible to preserve, or revive the former Glory of our Ancestors, and Secure the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas, and enrich the Kingdom by Navigation.

THE
SOVEREIGNTY
OF THE
British Seas,
ASSERTED.

England hath claimed a Prerogative of the *British* Seas time out of Mind; and amongst our former and Ancient Kings, King *Edgar* was very Potent, who possessing an Absolute Dominion of the Seas, Sailed Round about it every Year, and secured it with a constant Guard, as it is Recorded; and what Dominion King *Edgar* had, as absolute Lord of the Sea, appears in these Words;

*Guil. Mal-
mesb. lib.
2. Cap. 8.*

I *Edgar* King of *England*,
 and of all the Islands, and
 of the Ocean lying round a-
 bout *Britain*, and of all the Na-
 tions that are included within
 the Circuit thereof, Supream Lord
 and Governour; do render
 Thanks to Almighty God my
 King, who hath enlarged my
 Empire, and Exalted it above the
 Royal Estate of my Progenitors,
 who altho' they arrived to the
 Monarchy of all *England*; ever
 since *Athelstan*, yet the Divine
 Goodness hath favoured me to
 subdue all the Kings of the I-
 lands, in the Ocean, with their
 most Stout and Mighty Kings, e-
 ven as far as *Norway*, and the Great-
 est Part of *Ireland*; together with
 their most Famous City of *Dublin*.
 So far *Edgar*.

And after him, King *Canutus*
 left a Testimony of his Soverei-
 gnty over the Sea; In this Ex-
 pression; *Thou O Sea art mine, &c.*
 And from the Testimony of the
Saxons,

Saxons, and the *Danes*, we shall descend to the Government of the *Normans*, whereby many Notable and Clear Proofs we shall find, as may be gathered out of that Breviary of *England*, called *Dooms-Day*: *Rot. Par.* 48 *Hen.* 3. 22. *Edm.* 1. 2. *Rich.* 2. The Tribute called *Danegelt*, was paid in the time of the *Englisch Saxons*, which amounted to four Shillings upon every Hide of Land, for the Defending the Dominion by Sea. *Roger Hoveden* ^{Am. 26 part. page 276.} asserteth it was paid until the Reign of King *Stephen*; and in the Parliament Records of King *Richard* the Second, it is Observable that a Custom was Imposed upon every thing that passed thro' the *Northern Admiralty*; that is, from the, *Thames* along the *Eastern-Shoar* of *England*, towards the *North-East*, for the Maintaining a Guard for the Seas.

And this was not imposed only upon the *Engliff*, but also upon all the Ships of Foreigners, paying at the Rate of Six pence a Tun that passed by; such Ships only excepted that brought Merchandize out of *Flanders* to *London*. *Rot. Par. 2 Rich. 2. part 2. Att 38. Seld. Mare Clausum, page 334. Rot. Fran. 5. Hen. 4. Rot. Fran. 38. Hen. 6. Rot. Par. 23 Edw.* And it appeareth by Publick Records, containing divers main points, touching which, the Judges of the Land were to be consulted for the Good of the Common Wealkh; That the Kings Sea Dominion, which they called, the Antient Superiority of the Sea, was a Matter beyond all Contradiction amongst all Lawyers of that Age, and asserted by the Determinations and Customs of the Law of the Land; and by Express Words of the Writs and Forms of the Actions themselves.

*Wido Edw.
Coke, part
5. fol. 108.
and in Con-
Littleton:
Sed. 439.
fol. 260.*

And

And this Truth was not only confirmed by the Laws, but by our Medals: There hath been a Piece of Gold very often Coynded by our Kings, called a Rose Noble, which was Stamped on the one Side of it, a Ship Floating in the Sea, and a King Armed with a Sword and a Shield, Sitting in the Ship it self, as in a Throne; to set forth the Representation of the *English* King by Sea. The first Author hereof, was *Edward* the Third; when he Guarded his own Seas with a Potent Navy, consisting of Eleven Hundred Ships, at which time as at others, he Marched Victoriously thro' *France*.

Note, p. 38.

Remark.

But of all that has been said, there can hardly be alledged a more convincing Argument to prove the Truth of all that hitherto hath been spoken, than the acknowledgment of the Sea Dominion of the Kings of *England*; When the Agreement was made by *Edward* the first of *England*,
and

Rot. Par. 31.
Edw. 1.
Membran.
16.

and *Phillip the Fair of France*; *Reyner Grimbald* was then Admiral of the *French Navy*, Intercepted and spoyled on the *English Seas*, The Goods of many Merchants that were sailing to *Flanders*, as well *English* as others, and was not contented with the depredation of their Goods, but he Imprisoned their Persons, and delivered them up to the Officers of the King of *France*.

And in a very Insolent manner, Justified his Actions in Writing, as done by Authority of the King his Master's Commission.

This being alledged to be done to the great Damage and prejudice of the King of *England*; the Prelates, Peers, and the rest of the Nation, Exhibited a Bill against *Reyner Grimbald*, and managed by the Procurators on the behalf of the Prelates, Peers, and of the Cities and Towns throughout *England*; and also of the whole Kingdom of *England* in General;

General; and by and with the Authority, as is supposed, of the Estates assembled in Parliament; with those were joyned Procurators of most Nations Bordering upon the Sea, throughout *Europe*, viz.

The <i>Genoeses</i> .	The <i>Hollanders</i> .
The <i>Catalonians</i> .	The <i>Freezlanders</i> .
The <i>Spainards</i> .	The <i>Danes</i> .
The <i>Almayns</i> .	The <i>Norwegians</i> .
The <i>Zealanders</i> .	The <i>Hamburghers</i> .

And all these instituted a complaint against *Reyner Grimbald*, who was Admiral of the *French* Navy, in the time of the War, between *Philip* King of *France*, and *Guy* Earl of *Flanders*; And all these Complainants in their Bill, do joyntly affirm, That the King of *England* and his Predecessors, have time out of mind, and without controversie, enjoyed the Sovereignty and Dominion of the *Englisb* Seas, and the Isles belonging to the same,

same, by Right of the Realm of *England*; that is to say, by prescribing Laws, Statutes, and Prohibition of Arms and of Ships, otherwise Furnished, than with such Necessaries and Commodities as belong to Merchants, &c. Also, That they have had, and have the Sovereign Guard hereof, with all manner of Cognizance and Jurisdiction, doing right and Justice, according to the said Laws, Ordinances, and Prohibitions; and in all other Matters which may concern the Exercise of Sovereign Dominion in the said Places.

This is the Declarations of the Nations aforementioned, and they did declare he was Lord of the Sea, &c.

This is Cited out of the Parliament Records; and they did declare an Acknowledgment of the Sea Dominion of our Kings, made by those Foreign and Neighbour Nations, who were most

most concern'd in the Business, to the Glory of our Kings of *England*.

Mr. *Hitchcock*, in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, presented a Book to the Parliament, concerning the Commodity of Fishing; That the *Hollanders*, and *Zealanders*, every year towards the latter end of Summer, do send out four or five Hundred Vessels, called *Busses*, to Fish for Herrings in our *Eastern Seas*; but before they Fish, they ask leave of *Starbourough*; these were the Words: Care was also taken in King *James* the first of *England's* Reign; That no Foreigner should Fish on the *English* or *Irish* Seas, without leave first obtained; and every year at the least, this leave was renewed from Commissioners, for that purpose, appointed at *London*.

And the Kings of *France* have desired leave of the Kings of *England*, for a certain time to Fish
on

on our Seas, only for Fish for his Household, and obliged themselves in Articles, That none of the Fish, that was taken in the *British* Seas should be exposed to sale in any Market.

In the Seventh year of the Reign of King *James* the first, the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas was Strenuously asserted by Proclamation; and all Persons excluded from the use of the Seas upon our Coasts, without particular Licence; the Grounds whereof, you have here set down in the Proclamation it self.

A PROCLAMATION.
Touching Fishing.

JAMES by the Grace of God,
King of *Great-Britain, France*
and *Ireland*, Defender of the
Faith, &c. To all and Singular
Persons to whom it may apper-
tain, Greeting. Although we do
sufficiently know by our Expe-
rience,

rience, in the Office of Regal Dignity (in which by the Favour of Almighty God we have been Placed and Exercised these many years) as also by the Observation, which we have made of other Christian Princes exemplary Actions how far the Absoluteness of Sovereign Power extendeth it self; and that in Regard thereof, we need not yield Account to any Person (under God,) for any Action of ours, which is Lawfully Grounded upon that Just Prerogative; yet such hath ever been and shall be our Care and Desire, to give satisfaction to our Neighbour Princes and Friends in any Action which may have the least Relation to their Subjects and Estates; as we have thought Good (by way of Remonition) to declare to them, and to whomsoever it may appertain, as followeth.

Whereas we have been contented since our coming to the Crown,

Crown, to tolerate an Indifferent and Promiscuous kind of Liberty to all our Friends whatsoever, to Fish within our Streams, and upon any of our Coasts of *Great Britain, Ireland*, and other adjacent Islands, so far forth, as the Permission or Use thereof might not redound to the Impeachment of our Prerogative Royal, nor to the Hurt and Damage of our loving Subjects; whose Preservation and Flourishing Estate we hold our self Principally bound to Advance before all worldly Respects: so finding that our Continuance therein hath not only given occasion of over-great Encroachments upon our Regalities, or rather questioning our Right; but hath been a means of daily wrongs to our own People that exercise the Trade of Fishing, as (either by the Multitude of Strangers, which do pre-occupy those Places, or by the Injuries that they receive
 most

Commonly at their Hands.) Our Subjects are constrain'd to abandon their Fishing, or at least, are become so discouraged in the same, as they hold it better for them to betake themselves to some other course of Living; whereby, not only divers of our Coast Towns are much decayed, but the Number of Mariners daily diminish, which is a Matter of Great consequence to our Estates, considering how much the Strength thereof consisteth in the Power of Shipping, and use of Navigation; We have thought it now both Just and Necessary (in Respect that we are now by Gods Favour Lineally and Lawfully Possess'd as well of the Islands of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and the rest of the Isles adjacent) to bethink our selves of good lawful Means to prevent those Inconveniences, and many others depending upon the same. In consideration where-

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of,

of, as we are desirous that the World may take notice, that we have no intention to deny our Neighbours the *Allies* those Fruits and Benefits of Peace and Friendship, which may justly be expected at our hands in Honour and Reason, or are afforded by other Princes in the point of Commerce; and Exchange of those things which may not prove prejudicial to them: So, because some such convenient Order may be taken in this Matter; as may sufficiently provide for these Important Considerations, which do depend thereupon; We have resolved first, to give Notice to all the World, that our Express pleasure is, That from the beginning of the Month of *August* next coming, no Person of what Nation or Quality soever, being not our Natural Born Subjects, be permitted to Fish on any of our Coasts and Seas, of *Great Britain, Ireland,* and the rest of the Isles adjacent,

facent, where most usually here-
 tofore any Fishing hath been, un-
 til they have orderly demanded
 and obtained Licenses from Us, or
 such of Our Commissioners as We
 have Authorised in that behalf,
viz. At London, for Our Realms
 of *England* and *Ireland*; and at
Edenburgh, for our Realm of *Scot-*
land; which Licenses Our Inten-
 tion is, shall be yearly demanded;
 for so many Vessels and Ships, and
 the Tunnage thereof, as shall in-
 tend to Fish for that whole Year,
 or any part thereof, upon any of
 our Coasts and Seas, as aforesaid,
 upon the pain of such Chastisement
 as shall be fit to be inflicted on
 such Offenders.

Given at our Palace at *West-*
minster, the 6th of *May*,
 in the 7th Year of Our
 Reign of *Great Britain*,
Ann. Dom. 1609.

Notwithstanding this Proclamation, the *Netherlanders* still proceeded in the way of their Encroachment upon the Seas, thro' the whole Reign of King *James*, and were at length so bold as to contest with him, and Quarrel His Majesty out of His Rights, pretending (because of the long Conivance of Queen *Elizabeth*) that they had of their own a Right, of Immemorial Possession.

And in King *Charles* the I's Reign, a Proclamation was published, for Restraint of Fishing upon His Seas and Coasts, without License, dated the 10th day of *May*, in the 12th Year of his Reign. This Proclamation being set forth in the Year 1636, serv'd to speak the Intent of those Naval Preparations, made in the Year 1635; which were so numerous and well provided, that our *Netherland* Neighbours, were apprehensive of some Great Design in hand, for the Interest of *England* by Sea.

As

As I might shew at large (if it were requisite) by certain Papers of a publick Character yet in Being.

But there is one which may serve instead of all ; and it is a very Ingenious Letter of Secretary *Cokes*, that was written to Sir *William Boswell*, the King's Resident, then at the *Hague*; the Original whereof is still reserved among the Publick Papers: In which Letter he sets forth, the Grounds and Reason of Preparing that Royal and Gallant Navy ; with the King's Resolution to Maintain the Right derived from his Royal Progenitors, in the Dominion of the *British* Seas ; and therefore I here render a True Copy of it, so far as concerns this Business, as most pertinent to our Purpose.

SIR,

BY your Letters, and otherwise, I perceive many Jealousies and Discourses are raised upon the

Preparations of His Majesty's Fleet, which is now in such forwardness, that we doubt not but within this Month, it will appear at Sea. It is therefore expedient, both for your Satisfaction and Direction, to inform you particularly, what was the Occasion, and what is His Majesty's Intention in this Affair:

First, we hold it a Principle, not to be denied (as it may be prov'd from undeniable Record) That the King of Great Britain, is a Monarch at Land and Sea, to the full extent of His Dominions; and that it concerneth Him, as much to maintain His Sovereignty in the British Seas, as within His Three Kingdoms; because without * That, these cannot be kept safe; nor He preserve His Honour and due Respect with other Nations. But Commanding the Seas, he may cause his Neighbours, and all Countries, to stand upon their Guard, whensoever he thinks fit,

And

✂ And this cannot be doubted, that whosoever will encroach upon him by Sea, will do it also by Land, when they see their time. To such Presumption, *Mare Liberum*, gave the first Warning-piece, which must be answer'd with a Defence of *Mare Clausum*; not so much by Discourse, as by the lowder Language of a Powerful Navy; To be better understood, when over-strain'd Patience seeth no hope of preserving her Right by other Means.

The degrees by which His Majesty's Dominion at Sea, hath of latter Years been impeached, and then question'd, are as Considerable as Notorious.

First, to cherish, and as it were, to nourish our unthankful Neighbours, we gave them Leave to gather Wealth and Strength upon our Coasts, in our Ports, by our Trade, and by our People: Then they were glad to invite our Merchants-Residence, with what pri-
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viledges

viledges they would desire. Then they offer'd us the Sovereignty of their Estates; and then they su'd for License to Fish upon our Coasts, and obtained it under the Great Seal of *Scotland*, which now they suppress.

And when thus by Leave, or by Connivance, they had possess'd themselves of our Fishings, not only in *Scotland*, but in *Ireland* and *England*; and by our Staple, had rais'd a great Stock of Trade, by these Means they so increased their Shipping and Power at Sea, that now they endure not to be kept at any distance: Nay, they are grown to that Confidence, to keep Guards upon our Seas, and then project an Office and Company of Assurance, for the Advancement of Trade; and withal prohibit us free Commerce within our Seas, and take our Ships and Goods, if we conform not to their Placarts. What Insolences and Cruelties they have committed a-
gainst

gainst us heretofore in *Ireland*, in *Greenland*, and in the *Indies*, is too well known to all the World.

In all which, tho' our Sufferings, and their Wrongs, may seem forgotten ; yet the great Interest of His Majesty's Honour, is still the same, and will refresh their Memories, as there shall be Cause. For tho' Charity must remit wrongs done to private Men ; yet the Reflection upon the Publick may make it a greater Charity to do Justice on crying Crimes. All this notwithstanding, you are to conceive, that the Work of this Fleet, is Revenge, or Execution of Justice for these great Offences past, but Chieflly for the future, to stop the violent Current of that Presumption, whereby the Men of War, and Free-booters of all Nations (abusing the Favour of His Majesty's peaceable and most gracious Government) whereby he hath permitted all his Friends and Allies, to make use of his Sea-ports,

at

at a reasonable and free Manner, according to his Treaties) have taken upon them the Boldness, not only to come confidently at all times into all his Ports and Rivers, but to convey their Merchant Ships so high as his Chief City, and then to cast Anchor close upon his Magazines ; and to contemn the Commands of his Officers, when they have required a further distance.

* The
Downs.

But which is more intolérable, have assaulted and taken one another within His Majesties * Chamber, and within his Rivers; to the Scorn and Contempt of his Dominion and Power ; and this being of late years an Ordinary Practice, which we have endeavoured in vain to Reform by the way of Justice and Treaties, the World, I think, will be satisfied, that we have Reason to look about us.

And

And no Wise Man will doubt, but it is high time to put our selves in this Equipage upon the Seas; and not to suffer that Stage of Action to be taken from us, for want of our Appearance.

So you see the General Ground upon which our Counsell stands; In particular, you may take Notice, and Publish as cause requires; That His Majesty by his Fleet intendeth not a Rupture with any Prince or State, nor to Infringe any Point of his Treaties, but resolveth to continue, and Maintain that Happy Peace wherewith God hath Blessed his Kingdom, and to which all his Actions and Negotiations have hitherto tended, as by your own Instructions, you may finally understand.

But withal considering, that Peace must be maintain'd by the Arm of Power, which only keeps down War by keeping up Dominion; His Majesty thus provok'd, finds it Necessary for his own Defence and Safety,

safety, to re-assume and keep his Antient and undoubted Right, in the Dominion of these Seas, and to suffer no other Prince or State to encroach upon him, thereby assuming to themselves or their Admirals any Sovereign Command; but to force them to perform due Homage to his Admirals and Ships, and to pay them Acknowledgments, as in former times they did.

He will also set open, and protect the free Trade, both of his Subjects, and Allies, and give them such safe Conducts and Convoy, as they shall reasonably require.

He will suffer no other Fleets, nor Men of War, to keep any Guard upon these Seas, or there to offer Violence, to take Prizes, or Booties, or to give Interruption to any Lawful intercourse.

In a Word; His Majesty is resolved, as to do no Wrong, so to do Justice both to his Subjects and Friends, within the Limits of his Seas.

And

*And this is the Real and Royal
design of his Fleet, whereof you may
give Notice, as you find Occasion, to
our good Neighbours in those parts,
that no Umbrage may be taken of any
Hostile Act, or purpose to their Pre-
judice in any Kind; So wishing you
all Health and Happiness, I Rest*

Your assured Friend

and Servant.

JOHN COKE.

White-
Hall, 16
April.
1635.
our Style.

*So what has been said is suf-
ficient to prove the undisputable
Titles of the Kings of England's
Sovereignty over the British Seas;
and the Necessity of Maintaining
and Defending it:*

The

The CONCLUSION.

TO Conclude, that by which hath been undeniably Asserted, it doth evidently appear, That the Kings of *England* (by Immemorable Prescription, continual Usage and Possession; and also by the Acknowledgment of all the Kings, Princes, and States of Christendom, and the Laws of this Kingdom,) have always held the Sovereign Propriety of the *British* Seas.—And His Majesty by Right of his Sovereignty hath Supream Commands, and Jurisdiction over the Passage of his Seas, and Fishing therein beyond all Contradiction.

* And for these Reasons, stand the fairest of any People in the World, to his Lords of the Seas, and give Laws to the whole World by his Naval Force:

* And considering the Natural Sight of these our Seas, that interpose themselves between the Great *Northern* Commerce, and that of the whole World; And also, that of the *East, West* and *Southern* Climates; and with all, the

the vast Treasure that is got by Fishing in them daily.

It cannot therefore be doubted but His Majesty, by reason of his Great Wisdom and Virtue, and his Admirable Valour; And the Diligent Care of his Faithful and Loyal Subjects, may without injustice to any Prince or State, be made the Greatest Monarch for Wealth and Command in the World; and his People the most Opulent Flourishing of any in the Universe.

And the Sovereignty of the Seas being the most Precious Jewel of his Imperial Crown; (and next under God) the Principal Means of our Wealth, and Safety; all true *English* Men, are bound by all Possible Means of Honour and Industry, to preserve it with the utmost Hazard of their Lives and Fortunes.

Thus you see, what Wonderful Advantages may redound to the Felicity and Glory of this Nation,

Nation, if God gives us Hearts
and Resolutions to Vindi-
cate those Rights which are
most Impiously and Injuri-
ously Invaded by our Neighbours.

FINIS.